

Congressman Peters' Education Plan to Expand Opportunity and Drive Economic Growth

- **Make College Affordable Again** ~ Allow students to refinance student loans at lower rates; incentivize employers to partner with recent college graduates to help pay off their loans faster and close the skills gap; increase access to college counseling and financial advising; require schools to present students with a multiyear tuition schedule to help students and families; simplify federal financial aid forms; expand flexibility and restore access to year round Pell Grants; modernize college savings plans; keep rises in college tuition in check; provide students, especially low income and first-generation students, the resources to increase rates of college completion
- **Prepare students in STEM & STEAM fields** ~ Encourage growth of public-private partnerships to increase STEM opportunities for students; increase the number of women and minorities in STEM fields; make computer science a core academic subject; increase opportunities for students to learn coding and engineering; promote San Diego's innovative classrooms and expand student and teacher access to internet and technology in the classroom; encourage innovation by adding art and design into programs that target STEM fields
- **Invest in Quality Early Childhood Education** ~ Expand and increase accountability in Pre-K and Head Start programs; measure the return of investing in early childhood education in federal policy; utilize research findings to update and streamline Head Start Performance Standards to lessen the burden on grantee programs; ensure children have the nutrition to optimize learning
- **Ensure Quality Education for Military Connected Students and Veterans** ~ Fully fund Impact Aid for San Diego's and Coronado's military connected schools; report on the achievement of military connected students; increase access to accurate data about schools and hold schools accountable for violations and poor performance; allow individuals to use benefits to pay for college application fees; provide in-state tuition to veterans on the GI Bill; promote San Diego's effective student veteran resource centers
- **Enable Homeless and Foster Youth to Succeed** ~ Require states to use existing data to track the academic progress of homeless and foster children to identify achievement gaps and increase transparency and accountability; promote San Diego's exceptional comprehensive schools that serve homeless children; prevent mistreatment of minority homeless youth; ensure eligible foster children are able to receive deserved GI benefits; ease the burden for foster and homeless youth to pursue higher education
- **Attract and Retain the Highest Quality Teachers** ~ Fully fund Title I and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to ensure teachers and students have the resources they need; provide student loan relief to teachers; require high teaching standards; support teachers' professional development in STEM fields, digital learning, and writing; incentivize those with STEM degrees to become teachers
- **Foster Safe and Inclusive Schools** ~ Ensure students are safe at school; guarantee schools have effective anti-bullying policies that foster inclusive environments; promote mental health and decrease stigma of mental illness; provide student access to comprehensive health education; facilitate schools to make investments in sustainable facilities